IN THE CLAIMS

Please rewrite claims 1, 7, 14-16 and 19 as indicated.

1. (Currently Amended) A substrate for use in a data storage system, comprising:

at least one plastic composite material exhibiting a modulus of about 350 kpsi or greater;

wherein said plastic composite material is filled with ~~viscoelastic~~ elastic damping particles, anisotropic reinforcing agents, or combinations thereof.

2. (Previously Amended) The substrate of claim 1 wherein said plastic composite material exhibits a modulus in the range of about 400 to 3,000 kpsi.

3. (Previously Amended) The substrate of claim 1 wherein said plastic composite material is selected from: polysulfone (PSU), polyethersulfone (PES), polyetherimide (PEI), polyphenylsulfide (PPS), polyphthalamide (PPA), liquid crystal polymer (LCP), polyetheretherketone (PEEK), polycarbonate (PCB) and any combinations thereof.

5. (Previously Amended) The substrate of claim 1 wherein said anisotropic reinforcing agents are selected from carbon fibers, glass fibers, mineral particles and any combinations thereof.

7. (Currently Amended) The substrate of claim 1 wherein the ~~viscoelastic~~ elastic damping particles, anisotropic reinforcing agents, or combination thereof in the plastic composite material have a concentration in the range of about 5 to 65 weight %.

8. (Previously Amended) The substrate of claim 1 where said at least one plastic composite material comprises two or more layers of said material and any combination thereof.

9. (Previously Amended) The substrate of claim 1 further comprising:

said plastic composite material forming a core layer; and

said plastic composite material forming one or more skin layers formed atop said core layer.

11. (Original) The substrate of claim 1 wherein said substrate is formatted with servo control patterns.

12. (Original) A disk including the substrate of claim 1 and further comprising:

a MO or MR layer structure; and

a carbon overcoat formed atop said MO or MR layer structure.

13. (Original) The disk of claim 12 further comprising:

a read/write head;

an actuator for moving said read/write head; and

a motor for rotating said disk.

D3

14. (Currently Amended) A substrate for use in a data storage system, comprising:

at least one core layer made of a plastic or plastic composite material; and

at least one skin layer made of a plastic or plastic composite material, and formed atop at least one surface of said core layer, wherein at least one of said core or skin layers exhibits a modulus of 350 kpsi or greater, and

D3 cancelled

wherein the plastic or plastic composite material is filled with ~~viscoelastic~~ elastic damping particles, anisotropic reinforcing agents, or combinations thereof.

D4

15. (Currently Amended) The substrate of claim 14 wherein said plastic or plastic composite material is selected from: polysulfone (PSU), polyethersulfone (PES), polyetherimide (PEI), polyphenylsulfide (PPS), polyphthalamide (PPA), liquid crystal polymer (LCP), polyetheretherketone (PEEK), polycarbonate (PCB) and any combinations thereof.

D5

16. (Currently Amended) The substrate of claim 14 wherein the ~~viscoelastic~~ elastic damping particles, anisotropic reinforcing agents, or combinations thereof in the plastic or plastic composite material have a concentration in the range of about 5 to 65 weight %.

17. (Previously Amended) The substrate of claim 16 wherein said anisotropic reinforcing agent is selected from carbon fibers, glass fibers, mineral particles and any combination thereof.

D6

19. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a disk drive spindle motor; and

at least one data storage disk mounted on said disk drive spindle wherein said storage disk comprises at least one plastic composite material exhibiting a modulus of about 350 kpsi or greater, wherein said plastic composite material is filled with ~~viscoelastic~~ elastic damping particles, anisotropic reinforcing agents, or combinations thereof.